

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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S E C R E T USNATO 6223

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: NEXT STEPS RE AIR MANPOWER NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT

REF: A) USNATO 6203; B) USNATO 6097

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES SUGGESTIONS ADDITIONAL TO THOSE MADE BY MISSION IN REFTTEL A CONCERNING NEXT STEPS FOR U.S. ON AIR MANPOWER NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT.

2. RE THE MISSION'S FIRST OPTION IN PARA 4, REF A, WE WOULD CHANGE THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE TEXT, AFTER THE WORDS "MUTUAL COMMITMENT," TO READ "NOT TO INCREASE THE OVERALL LEVEL OF AIR AND GROUND MANPOWER BEYOND THE LEVEL EXISTING AT THE TIME OF CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE REDUCTIONS OF 7S. AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES ESTABLISHED IN THAT AGREEMENT." MUCH OF THIS
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PHRASE COMES FROM THE NAC GUIDANCE ON THE GROUND FORCES COMMITMENT.

REFERENCE TO THE "OVERALL LEVEL OF AIR AND GROUND MANPOWER" WOULD RULE OUT NATIONAL SUB-CEILINGS. IN ORDER THAT IT NOT ALSO RULE

OUT SERVICE SUB-CEILINGS, THE GUIDANCE MIGHT REQUIRE AMENDING THE SENTENCE IN THE U.S. TEXT (PARA 1, REF B) CONCERNING DEISCUSSION OF DETAILS WITH THE EAST TO READ AS FOLLOWS: "ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD REFARIN FROM GOING INTO FURTHER DETAILS AT THIS TIME, TELLING EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES THAT QUESTIONS OF DETAIL, INCLUDING THE QUESTIONOF SERVICE VS. AGGREGATE CEILINGS, WOULD BE DEALT WITH AT A LATR STAGE WHEN SPECIFICS OF ALL SUGGESTED COMMITMENTS WOULD BE DISCUSSED."

3. THE PURPOSE OF THE MISSION'S ECOND OPTION WAS TO MAKE THE NATURE OF THE COMMITMENT MORE VAGUE, LEAVING THE ALLIED DECISION ON THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AGGREGATE GROUND/AIR CEILING UNTIL LATER. WE WOULD SUGGEST REPLACING THE SENTENCE QUOTED IN PARA 6, REF A, BY THE FOLLOWING: "ALLIED NEGOTIATORS ARE AUTHORIZED TO SUGGEST TO THEIR WARSAW APCT COLLEAGUES WILLINGENESS TO CONSIDER A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON GROUND AND AIR MANPOWER IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBLE CIRCUMVENTION OF THE FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT." THIS SENTENCE WOULD BETTER SERVE THE NEED FOR A SIGNAL SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR TO THE OTHR SIDE, SUFFICIENTLY VAGUE ON HOW THE NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT WOULD BE ACHIEVED, AND NOT CREATING ANY POSSIBLE IMPRESSION OF A NON-U.S. ALLIED WILLINGNESS TO REDUCE PRIOR TO PHASE II.
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